

## Cautionary Comments Concerning Individual Interaction

(Mark 9:38-50)

**Proposition:** Every child of God can heed Jesus cautionary comments by observing the three principals laid out in our text.

- I. **The Problem of Belittling Servants** (Vs. 38-42)
  - A. A Prideful Question (Vs. 38-40)
  - B. A Prudent Comparison (Vs. 41-42)
- II. **The Pitfall of Besetting Sins** (Vs. 43-48)
  - A. The Separation from Sins (Vs. 43a, 45a, 47a)
  - B. The Seriousness of Sin (Vs. 43b-44, 45b-46, 47b-48)
- III. **The Prominence of Bodily Sacrifice** (Vs. 49-50)
  - A. The Burning of Sacrifice (Vs. 49)
  - B. The Blessing of Saltiness (Vs. 50)

## Cautioning Comments concerning individual interaction Mark 9:38-50. Today

Carey was relating to me the story as told by our Missionary Sunday

Ben Andrews. How that he had gone into a village in New Guinea to reach the Lost and a Catholic Priest tried to incite the people to rise up against Bro Ben and to brutally have to run him out of town. Miraculously Ben was spared and somewhat of a physical Judgment befell the Priest. These two men are in some way suppose to be on the

same team. Yet there was strife and pride and violence between them. The interaction between the two turned threatening. But whether you are a missionary or a Sunday School teacher, the way interaction between people on same team can turn deadly to a Christian walk, + family + a church. Every child of God can heed Jesus cautionary comments by observing the three principals laid out in our text. Notice first of all

### I. The Problem of Belittling <sup>sorrows</sup>

- I have grown up with belittling. It became somewhat of a competition. What it does is raises us above someone else.

What John thinks is helping is hurting.

**A. A Proudful Question** - This was said on the heels of serving. The sentiment John relates to many many makes of life. But ~~more~~ greater than the Christian life. We as fallen humanity try to proudly raise ourselves above others. John: He is not running in my crowd, so he's not going to be used by God. We in our pursuit of personal beliefs are so apt to look down our noses at those who are not in lock step with us. Not to say we surrender truth. Jesus Words

**B. A Proud Comparison** - Jesus takes up the analogy of the child again. A child that believes in me - Christ! We are not talking about a Moslem hinker or rabbi. But a believer a weaker believer a child in the Kingdom. Offended means to cause to stumble. A weight of Judgment looms over you. Can you see it matters how you treat and what you say to other members of God's family. God takes it serious, VS God wants peace.

## **II. The Pitfall of Besetting Sins**

Jesus takes his scrutinizing eye and turns it from the judgment of others to the jurisdiction of the heart



Heb 12:1 Speaks about that besetting sin.

A. The Separation from Sin - Now Jesus is not condoning self surgery he said in Ch 20 that sin's origin is in the heart. Warren W Said Jesus is teaching that sin is to the inner person what a cancerous tumor is to the body and it must be dealt w/ drastically. I heard a story today about Siegfried and Kay. The tiger raised in their home never gave them a problem. But during a show out of the blue attacked and liked to have killed Kay! Sin doesn't need to linger.

B. The Seriousness of Sin - There is a hell. Jesus pulls back the curtain of divine revelation and gives us a comparison to the eternal torments of the judgment to come. What do we make of this? Jesus threatening his disciples his followers with hell? I thought if we came to him we would have eternal life. The great point Jesus is making is that the life that persists in <sup>unrepented</sup> sin has no other destination than hell. Therefore they are a false convert. They have never received

III. The Prominence of a Bodily

Sacrifice Paul said in Romans 12:1 of the sacrifice... by the mercies... sacrifice. Jews were not allowed to put anything on

Sacrifices such as leaven or honey were Lev 2:11, 15 required.

**A. The Burning of Sacrifices** - This verse indicates that everyone will burn. Everyone will suffer. The question is when and where. One author writes "Would you rather endure the fires of hell as a lost sinner or the purifying fires of God as a sacrifice for his Glory? Satan promised Jesus the Kingdom now w/o suffering pain & defeat later. Jesus calls us and him self to suffer the cross life now, to enjoy the delight of eternal life to come.

**B. The Blessing of Saltiness** - Salt preserves and purifies. Jesus refers to his disciples in Matt 5:13 as the salt of the earth. Salt represents purity in the life of the believer. A salty believer is one preoccupied w/ personal holiness in their own heart. Salt in those days could lose its savor thru impurities. We lose our saltiness when we become more observant of others sins and neglect ~~our~~ <sup>our</sup> offering hand foot & eye then w/o lose our saltiness. But the blessing is <sup>Blessing is</sup> saltiness.

**IV. Closing** - It is very easy to get caught up in the snare we find Jeh in. But Jesus tells us how to sidestep the trap.